

224



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/465,761	12/17/1999	KENICHI YAMAMOTO	1614.1020	9287

21171 7590 11/30/2004

STAAS & HALSEY LLP  
SUITE 700  
1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W.  
WASHINGTON, DC 20005

EXAMINER
----------

GURSHMAN, GRIGORY

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2132

DATE MAILED: 11/30/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/465,761

Applicant(s)

YAMAMOTO ET AL.

Examiner

Grigory Gurshman

Art Unit

2132

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 September 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 17 December 1999 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Arguments***

1. Applicant's amendments of claims 1, 7, 13, 17 reflect "connection state indicating whether the user terminal exists on a session between the user terminal and a server".
2. Referring to the independent claims 1 and 7, Applicant argues that Takagi does not teach the limitation "connection state indicating whether the user terminal exists on a session". This limitation is addressed in the rejection herein. In addition examiner points out that one of ordinary skill in the art would have considered the "connection state" as a value indicating whether the terminal is connected to a server or disconnected. If the terminal is disconnected, the session itself does not exist. Examiner believes that the claim language with respect to the term "connection state" should be clarified.
3. Referring to the instant claims, Applicant also argues that IBM Bulletin does not teach or suggest providing information to the user terminal according to the connection state of the user terminal received. Examiner respectfully disagrees and points out that IBM Bulletin teaches that the server uses the password to authenticate the user and establish (i.e. manage) the session (see disclosure text page 2). The password serves as a state or a condition for connection. Once the session is established the information is provided to the user terminal according to the password (i.e. state of connection). Applicant states that IBM Bulletin cannot provide any motivation for modifying Takagi. Examiner points out that Takagi shows user authentication unit (19 in Fig. 10), he does

not explicitly teach managing session information so that a session between the server and the user terminal is established when the session management part receives the connection state of the user. IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin (hereinafter IBM) teaches that the server uses the password (providing the connection state) to authenticate the user and establish the session (see disclosure text page 2). The session is established based on the security level of the password, which determines the connection state for the session.

Therefore, at the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to manage session information using the connection state of the user terminal information of Takagi so that a session between the server and the user terminal is managed when the user's connection state is accepted by the server as taught in IBM. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to manage session information using the connection state of the user terminal information so that a session between the server and the user terminal is managed when the user's connection state is accepted by the server as taught in IBM for eliminating the need to repeatedly lookup the passwords in the registry (see IBM page 2, 3d paragraph).

4. Referring to the independent claims 13 and 17, Applicant argues that Shi does not disclose or suggest the present claimed invention with regard to limitation "event information indicating whether the user's client exists on a session". Examiner points out that this limitation is met by authentication process shown in Fig. 4, which determines

whether a particular browser (i.e. client) exists on the session based on DCE UUID created upon login.

Applicant also argues the limitation "releasing the session ID... ". This limitation is met by is met DCE UUID, which is created for each new session. The previous session ID with the cookie are destroyed (i.e. released) - see flowchart Fig. 4.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1 -12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takagi (U.S. Patent No. 5,881,231) in view of IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin (volume 38, January 1, 1995).

7. Referring to the instant claims, Takagi discloses information processing system using information caching based on user activity (see abstract and Fig. 1).

8. Takagi teaches that in response to a request from the user authentication unit 79, according to the user name authenticated at the step S801, the user related information for the authenticated user are initialized by the network service server 100. For example, when the utilization prediction knowledge relevant for the authenticated user is present only in the second information storage unit 95 and not in the network service server 100, the information positioning unit 104 is controlled to transfer this utilization

Art Unit: 2132

prediction knowledge to the network service server 100, and set it as the utilization prediction knowledge 107 to be used in the subsequent prediction. Note here that, although not shown in FIG. 21, there can be various possible processing that can be carried out in a case where the access from the terminal 70 to the network service server 100 is not possible. As an exemplary processing in such a case, it is possible for the user authentication unit 79 to urge the user to make the network connection, and carry out the processing of this step S802 at a time the connection is made (see Figs. 20-22).

9. The "user terminal" is met by terminal 10 (in Fig.1) and the "server, which is connected to the user terminal via network" is met by server 40 connected to the user terminal via network 30 (see Fig.1). The limitation "connection state transmitting part to transmit a connection state indicating whether the user terminal exists on a session between the use terminal and the server" is met by terminal utilization status/environment unit (21 in Fig.1) connected to information server (40 in Fig. 1) through communication unit (23) over network (31). The limitation "connection state indicating whether the user terminal exists on a session" is met by monitoring terminal utilization (see block 802 in Fig.21). The limitation "...providing part to provide the connections state transmitting part to the user terminal along with information to fulfill request of the user terminal..." is met by terminal location info providing unit (51 in Fig. 51) coupled to terminal (10) and to the information server (40).

Takagi teaches that in response to a request from the user authentication unit 79, according to the user name authenticated at the step S801, the user related information

for the authenticated user are initialized by the network service server 100. While Takagi shows user authentication unit (19 in Fig. 10), he does not explicitly teach managing session information so that a session between the server and the user terminal is established when the session management part receives the connection state of the user.

10. Referring to the instant claims, IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin (hereinafter IBM) teaches that the server uses the password (providing the connection state) to authenticate the user and establish the session (see disclosure text page 2). The session is established based on the security level of the password, which determines the connection state for the session.

Therefore, at the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to manage session information using the connection state of the user terminal information of Takagi so that a session between the server and the user terminal is managed when the user's connection state is accepted by the server as taught in IBM. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to manage session information using the connection state of the user terminal information so that a session between the server and the user terminal is managed when the user's connection state is accepted by the server as taught in IBM for eliminating the need to repeatedly lookup the passwords in the registry (see IBM page 2, 3d paragraph).

11. Referring to claims 9 and 10, Takagi teaches confirming notification in the predetermined period by recording the knowledge concerning an activity scheduled by the user (see abstract).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

12. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

13. Claims 13-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Shi (U.S. Patent No.5.875.296).

14. Referring to the instant claims, Shi discloses a method of authenticating a Web client to a Web server connectable to a distributed file system of a distributed computing environment (see abstract).

Shi teaches that the distributed computing environment includes a security service for returning a credential to a user authenticated to access the distributed file system. In response to receipt by the Web server of a user id and password from the Web client, a login protocol is executed with the security service. If the user can be authenticated, a credential is stored in a database of credentials associated with authenticated users. The Web server then returns to the Web client a persistent client state object having a unique identifier therein. This object, sometimes referred to as a cookie, is then used to enable the Web client to browse Web documents in the distributed file system. In particular, when the Web client desires to make a subsequent request to the distributed file system, the persistent client state object including the identifier is used in lieu of the user's id and password, which makes the session much more secure. In this operation,



the cookie identifier is used as a pointer into the credential storage table, and the credential is then retrieved and used to facilitate multiple file access from the distributed file system (see abstract).

The limitation "receiving a user ID and a password from a user and authenticating a user" is met by receiving by the Web server of a user id and password from the Web client and executing a login protocol with the security service (see column 2, lines 65-70). The limitation "transmitting the session ID and a monitoring applet to the authenticated user's client " is met by the Web server, which returns to the Web client a persistent client state object having a unique identifier therein (see column 3, lines 3- 8). The limitation "event information indicating whether the user's client exists on a session" is met by authentication process shown in Fig. 4, which determines whether a particular browser (i.e. client) exists on the session. The session ID is met by DCE UUID created upon login. Referring to the limitation "releasing the session ID when it is determined that the user's client is no longer accessing the server" is met DCE UUID, which is created for each new session. The previous session ID with the cookie are destroyed (see flowchart Fig. 4).

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Grigory Gurshman whose telephone number is (571)272-3803. The examiner can normally be reached on 9 AM-5:30 PM.

Art Unit: 2132


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gilberto Barron can be reached on (571)272-3799. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the TC 2100 receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.



Grigory Gurshman  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2132

GG



THOMAS R. PEESO  
PRIMARY EXAMINER